

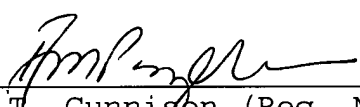
IN THE SPECIFICATION¹

Please add the following paragraph on page 1 as the first sentence of the specification directly following the title:

This application is a continuation of International Patent Application No. PCT/EP01/15290, filed December 21, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to make reference to a priority claim under 35 U.S.C. §365(c) to International Patent Application No. PCT/EP01/15290. None of these amendments adds new matter.



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¹ An "Appendix of Amendments" is enclosed herewith showing the amendments to the specification. In the Appendix, additions are underscored and deletions are bracketed.